

Remarks

Claims 1-25 were pending in the application. Claims 1-4, 6, 7, 10-12, 14 and 18 were rejected, claims 5, 8, 9, 13, 15-17, 19-22 and 24-25 were objected to, and claim 23 was allowed. By this Amendment, claim 1 has been amended and claim 22 has been cancelled. Reconsideration of the claims is respectfully requested. No new matter has been added.

Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. § 102


Claims 1-4, 6, 7, 10-12, 14 and 18 were rejected under § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 4,541,885 issued to Caudill, Jr. In the final Office Action, the Examiner indicated that claims 5, 8, 9, 13, 15-17, 19-22 and 24-25 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Applicants have rewritten claim 22 in independent form. More specifically, claim 1 has been amended to incorporate the limitations of claim 22. As such, independent claim 1 is believed to be in condition for allowance. Since claims 5, 8, 9, 13, 15-17, 19-21 and 24-25 depend on amended claim 1, these claims are also believed to be in condition for allowance.

Conclusion

Applicants have made a genuine effort to respond to the Examiner's rejections in advancing the prosecution of this case. Applicants believe all formal and substantive requirements for patentability have been met and that this case is in condition for allowance, which action is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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